

Message Text

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51

ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 DRC-01 /094 W
----- 073339

R 091422Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1541
INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY TUNIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT

SUBJ: OVER ESCALATION OF POPULAR REVOLUTION

REF: TRIPOLI 0985

1. REGIME'S LATEST EXPERIMENT IN GOVERNMENT-BY-THE-PEOPLE GOT OUT OF HAND QUICKLY. RCC THEORY WAS THAT CONCERNED CITIZENS WOULD BAND TOGETHER, INVADE OFFICES OF POPULAR COMMITTEES WHICH WERE PERFORMING POORLY AND REPLACE THEM WITH HIGHER QUALITY PEOPLE. ACTIVITY BEGAN FIVE DAYS AGO IN ZAWIA AND SEEMED TO SPREAD IMMEDIATELY TO MOST AREAS OF THE COUNTRY. ON SEPT 6 PRIMIN JALLOUD HAILED MOVEMENT AS SECOND STATE OF ESCALATION OF POPULAR REVOLUTION. HE FELT ASSURED MASSES WOULD BE ALERT ENOUGH NOT TO OVERTHROW COMMITTEES DOING A GOOD JOB, AND AFTER PEACEFUL STRUGGLE RIGHT MEN WOULD BE IN RIGHT PLACES.

2. HOWEVER, REPORTS SOON CIRCULATED OF FIST FIGHTS AMONG GROUPS OF CITIZENS INTENT ON PUTTING THEIR OWN CANDIDATES IN OFFICE. LATE ON SEPT 8 RCC WAS OBLIGED TO ISSUE SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT DECLARING THAT HENCEFORTH
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SEIZURE OF POWER BY PEOPLE WOULD BE CARRIED OUT IN

ACCORDANCE WITH NEW PLAN TO BE DRAWN UP BY RCC.

3. IT IS GENERALLY RECOGNIZED THAT MANY POPULAR
COMMITTEES HAVE BEEN INEFFECTIVE AND REGIME MUST PRESS
AHEAD WITH TASK OF FINDING MORE CAPABLE REPLACEMENTS.
STEIN

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